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SECRET

RRF:

DEFERRED TELEPOUCH

ACTION: DG/PCD-9 (669) INFO: GDFD-L, RF, FILE, CORECORD, (12/A)

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CITE (E 176886)

TO: WASHINGTON INFO (E 1, E 1, E 1)

FOR: (C/E/G) INFO: C/EUR, EUR/INT, DIRECTOR/NFAC

FROM: COS, (E 1)

SUBJECT: MNINTEL CASCOPE -- THE PASSING OF THE BND BATON

RRF: (E 1) 176884 (NOT SENT/NEEDED (E 1) OR (E 1))

1. ON 21 DECEMBER, THE PASSAGE OF THE BND PRESIDENCY FROM GENERAL WESSEL TO DR. KLAUS KINKEL WAS SYMBOLICALLY MARKED WITH A SET OF CEREMONIES AT BND HEADQUARTERS IN PULLACH. (THE ACTUAL TRANSITION WILL OCCUR A BIT LATER. DURING THE COURSE OF 21 DECEMBER, WESSEL, KINKEL AND BLOETZ ALL (SEPARATELY) CONFIRMED TO COS THAT WESSEL WILL ACTUALLY RETIRE ON 31 DECEMBER, KINKEL WILL ARRIVE TO MOVE INTO HIS OFFICE AND ACTUALLY TAKE OVER ON 8 JANUARY, AND BLOETZ WILL BE "ACTING" DURING THE BRIEF INTER-REGNUM.)

2. THE SYMBOLISM OF THESE 21 DECEMBER CEREMONIES WAS QUITE ELABORATE AND QUITE MANIFESTLY CONSCIOUSLY CONTRIVED (WITH COMMENDABLE IMAGINATION AND SUBTLETY) BY THE CHANCELLERY (WITH EXCELLENT IMPLEMENTING STAFF WORK AND ORGANIZATION ON THE PART OF THE PRESENT BND MANAGEMENT, ESPECIALLY BLOETZ AND (E 1) THE MESSAGE -- CLEARLY SENT AND RECEIVED (WITH RELIEF AND APPROBATION) -- WAS THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE CHANCELLERY DO NOT, IN ANY WAY, REGARD THE BND AS A STEP-CHILD OR ITS PROFESSIONALS AS PARIAHS. THE BND IS VALUED AND RESPECTED IN BONN, WHICH WANTS THE BND TO MAKE AN EVER GREATER INPUT AND CONTRIBUTION TO FRG DECISION AND POLICY-MAKING. THE BND IS NOT BEING SADDLED WITH AN "OUTSIDER" AS ITS NEW PRESIDENT; AND KINKEL HAS NO MANDATE WHATSOEVER TO "CLEAN HOUSE" OR "STRAIGHTEN OUT THAT PLACE IN PULLACH". THE CHANCELLOR HAS PICKED A TOP FLIGHT MAN TO BE THE BND'S NEW HEAD,

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THAT MAN HAS THE CHANCELLOR'S (AND THE CHANCELLERY'S) FULL BACKING, AND (PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT) HE IS ABLE, WELL-POSITIONED AND MORE THAN WILLING TO BE A FORCEFUL ADVOCATE FOR, AND DEFENDER OF, THE BND IN THE HIGHEST COUNCILS OF THE FRG.

3. THE CHANCELLOR HIMSELF WAS UNABLE TO BE PRESENT; BUT HE WAS MOST ABLY REPRESENTED BY STATE SECRETARY DR. MANFRED SCHUELER (CHEF DES BUNDESKANZLERAMTES, SCHMIDT'S DE FACTO CHIEF OF STAFF). SCHUELER CAME DOWN TO MUNICH IN THE CHANCELLOR'S PERSONAL PLANE (AS NOTED ABOVE, THE SYMBOLIC THEATRICAL TOUCHES WERE EXTENSIVE AND COMPREHENSIVE). ALSO ON THAT PLANE WERE DR. AND FRAU KINKEL, MINISTERIALDIREKTOR FRANZ SCHLICHTER (SCHUELER'S DEPUTY FOR INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY MATTERS), STATE SECRETARY DR. JOACHIM HIEBLE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, LIEUTENANT GENERAL HANS POEPPPEL (RECENTLY PICKED TO BE THE DEPUTY INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF THE BUNDESWEHR -- WHAT WOULD BE (IF WE HAD ONE) OUR DEPUTY JCS CHAIRMAN), ADMIRAL ARENDT (FMOD J-2), GENERAL KOMOSSA (HEAD OF THE ASBw/MAD), MINISTERIALDIREKTOR VON LOEWENICH OF THE INTERIOR MINISTRY (STATE SECRETARY FROELICH WAS BUSY IN BONN WITH THE CHANCELLOR), HERR KAUFMAN OF THE FINANCE MINISTRY (HE SUPERVISES THE PREPARATION AND PARLIAMENTARY PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGETS OF ALL OF THE FRG'S INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY ORGANIZATIONS), A CSU MEMBER (NICE TOUCH) OF THE NEW BUNDESTAG INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, COLONEL DR. RAFOTH (HEAD OF THE BND OFFICE IN BONN) -- PLUS MR. ANTHONY HARTLEY (SENIOR SIS OFFICER IN GERMANY) AND COS, [] I.

4. A NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL GERMAN NOTABLES (WHO MADE THEIR WAYS SEPARATELY) ALSO CONVENED AT PULLACH FOR THE CEREMONIES, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING: GENERALBUNDESANWALT DR. REBMANN (IN THE FRG, HE AND THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE DIVIDE THE FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES COLLECTIVELY PERFORMED/DISCHARGED BY OUR ATTORNEY GENERAL AND SOLICITOR GENERAL), BFV PRESIDENT DR. MEIER, BKA (FEDERAL CRIMINAL POLICE) PRESIDENT DR. HEROLD, GENERAL SCHNEIDER (HEAD (INSPEKTEUR) OF THE FRG'S BORDER POLICE (THE BUNDESGRENZSCHUTZ)), THE HEAD

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A. SCHUELER LED OFF, DISPLAYING MORE WIT AND LIGHTNESS OF TOUCH THAN COS. HAD PREVIOUSLY CREDITED HIM WITH. HE RANG ALL THE RIGHT CHIMES, HIT ALL THE RIGHT NOTES, AND SET THE OVERALL TONE PERFECTLY. HE BEGAN BY PAYING GRACIOUS HOMAGE TO GEHLEN, THEN SLID INTO A FLATTERING REVIEW OF WESSEL'S CAREER

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AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS, NEATLY TURNING THAT INTO AN OUTWARDLY CANDID ACCOUNT OF WHAT A DIFFICULT TIME THE CHANCELLERY (AND CHANCELLOR) HAD HAD IN FINDING SOMEONE WORTHY TO BE WESSEL'S SUCCESSOR. THAT OPENING WAS DEFTLY EXPLOITED TO BUILD JP KINKEL TO SCHUELER'S AUDIENCE (WHICH GOT THE MESSAGE) WITHOUT EVER DISJOINTING WESSEL'S NOSE (WHICH DISJOINTS VERY EASILY). SCHUELER THEN DWELT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BND'S WORK, HOW MUCH THE CHANCELLERY APPRECIATED IT, AND HOW WELL THE CHANCELLERY REALIZED HOW DIFFICULT IT WAS FOR AN ESSENTIAL SECRET INTELLIGENCE SERVICE TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY -- OR EVEN AT ALL -- IN AN AGE OF OVERSIGHT AND "OPENNESS" OFTEN MARKED MORE BY DOCTRINAIRE ARDOR THAN ANY SENSE OF NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES. HE THEN QUITE FRANKLY ADDRESSED THE PROBLEMS CREATED BY HAVING THE BND IN MUNICH; IN THE PROCESS, REASSURING HIS AUDIENCE THAT THERE WAS NO THOUGHT OF MOVING THEM TO BONN. IN A REALLY QUITE ELOQUENT PERORATION, SCHUELER RE-STATEd ALL THE ABOVE THEMES, WOVE THEM TOGETHER, THEN SAT DOWN TO PROLONGED, HEARTFELT APPLAUSE. (DIETER BLOETZ PERHAPS EXCEPTED, SCHUELER'S SPEECH WENT DOWN LIKE AN OYSTER WITH HIS BND AUDIENCE.)

B. AFTER SCHUELER CAME WESSEL, WHSE ELABORATE AND FORMAL SPEECH WAS VINTAGE (AND QUINTESSENTIAL) WESSEL -- AN APOLOGIA, A SWAN SONG, AND A DISBOURSE ON THE DIFFICULTY OF RUNNING A SECRET SERVICE IN AN AGE OF PRESS "LICENSE". IT WAS QUITE ELEGANT, HOWEVER, EVEN TOUCHING IN SPOTS -- AND WAS NICELY APPLAUDED (TO WESSEL'S VERY EVIDENT SATISFACTION).

C. WESSEL WAS FOLLOWED BY HERR KEMPF, HEAD OF THE BND'S "PERSONALRAT" (EMPLOYEES' ADVISORY COUNCIL). KEMPF'S WAS THE MOST PEDESTRIAN SPEECH OF THE DAY, BUT HE WAS IN A DIFFICULT SPOT. HIS JOB WAS TO WELCOME KINKEL ON BEHALF OF THE BND'S EMPLOYEES. AT THAT POINT, HOWEVER, KINKEL -- WHO HAD NOT YET SPOKEN -- WAS VERY MUCH AN UNKNOWN

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QUANTITY TO THESE EMPLOYEES, OF WHOSE INTERESTS KEMPF WAS/SUPPOSED TO BE THE REPRESENTATIVE AND SPOKESMAN. KEMPF CLEARLY DID NOT WANT TO IRRITATE THE BND MANAGEMENT, OR THE BRASS FROM BONN -- LET ALONE HIS AND THE BND'S NEW BOSS. AT THE SAME TIME, KEMPF HAD TO WEIGH THE REACTION TO HIS REMARKS OF HIS FELLOW WORKERS IN THE AUDIENCE.

6. AFTER KEMPF CAME KINKEL. FOR HIM, THIS WAS A CRUCIAL SPEECH -- AND HE KNEW IT. HE ALSO KNEW HE WAS PLAYING TO A TOUGH GALLERY -- NOT HOSTILE, BUT POISED AND MORE THAN READY TO NOTE, COUNT, AND ANALYZE ANY BRICKS HE DROPPED. HE DROPPED NONE. IT WAS A MASTERFUL PERFORMANCE. WITH EASY, INFORMAL (BUT NOT TOO INFORMAL) ELOQUENCE, KINKEL OPENED WITH HIS HOMAGE TO GEHLEN, THEN TO WESSEL (SAYING JUST ENOUGH -- NOT TOO LITTLE, BUT ALSO NOT TOO MUCH). HE THEN TURNED TO HIS "DEAR NEW COLLEAGUES" (LIEBE NEUE MITARBEITER) AND DEVELOPED THE FOLLOWING THEMES: FIRST, KINKEL STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN BEINGS AND HUMAN RELATIONS -- IN TWO SPHERES. THE WORK OF THE BND WAS PROFESSIONALLY EXACTING AND DEMANDING; THE HUMAN FEELINGS, NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS OF ITS INDISPENSABLE PROFESSIONALS HAD TO BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED, PROTECTED, AND NEVER FORGOTTEN. SECONDLY, THOUGH TECHNOLOGICAL COLLECTION WAS IMPORTANT IN INTELLIGENCE, GERMANY COULD NEVER "COMPETE WITH OTHERS" IN THE TECHNICAL COLLECTION FIELD. SHE -- HENCE THE BND -- HAD TO MAKE HER/ITS PRIMARY CONTRIBUTION IN THE FIELDS OF HUMAN COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS. IN BOTH, THE HUMAN FACTOR WAS PARAMOUNT, COULD NEVER BE FORGOTTEN, AND HAD ALWAYS TO BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED. KINKEL USED THIS THEME AS A LEAD TO DESIGNEDLY IMPRESSIVE COMPASS-BOXING HORIZON TOUR OF GERMANY'S PRINCIPAL FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS AND CONCERNS. HE STRUCK AN ADMIRABLE BALANCE BETWEEN BEING NATIONALISTIC WITHOUT EVER QUITE BEING CHAUVANISTIC, AND ENDED THIS PORTION OF HIS SPEECH WITH STRESS ON THE FRG'S NEED, AND RESPONSIBILITY, TO BE A STAUNCH PILLAR OF NATO AND THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. KINKEL THEN SWUNG BACK TO PULLACH, SAYING HOW MUCH HE AND HIS WIFE WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO MOVING TO MUNICH, HOW MUCH HE RESPECTED AND LOOKED FORWARD TO WORKING WITH HIS NEW COLLEAGUES IN THE BND, HOW MUCH HE WOULD NEED THEIR HELP

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AND SUPPORT, AND NOW ACUTELY HE REALIZED THAT, IN RETURN FOR THIS SUPPORT, HE HAD THE OBLIGATION TO BE THEIR CHAMPION AND SPOKESMAN. WHEN KINKEL SAT DOWN, TO PROLONGED APPLAUSE, THERE WAS HARDLY A DRY EYE IN THE HOUSE.

9. AFTER KINKEL'S SPEECH, AS THE DIGNITARIES QUICKLY FILED OUT, COS MADE A POINT OF GOING OVER TO GENERAL GEHLEN (WHO WAS MOVING VERY SLOWLY) AND GREETING HIM WARMLY IN FULL VIEW OF THE BND AUDIENCE.

10. AFTER THE CEREMONIES, THE VISITORS WERE ALL WHISKED OVER TO THE BUILDING WHICH HOUSES WESSEL'S AND RLOETZ'S OFFICES FOR DRINKS AND THEN A SUMPTUOUS LUNCH. SCHUELER PRESIDED AT THE LATTER, WITH DIGNIFIED GRACE AND CONSIDERABLE WITTY CHARM. HE MADE A VERY GRACIOUS TOAST TO WESSEL, GAVE THE LATTER A SIGNED PICTURE FROM SCHMIDT, AND ALL WAS HEARTS AND FLOWERS. AFTER LUNCH, THINGS BROKE UP AND THE BONN CONTINGENT WENT BACK TO THE AIRPORT AND THE CHANCELLOR'S PLANE.

11. THIS WAS VERY MUCH A GERMAN SHOW. MR. HARTLEY AND COS WERE THE ONLY TWO NON-GERMANS PRESENT. (COS []) SUBSEQUENTLY LEARNED THAT A FRENCHMAN, UNIDENTIFIED, HAD BEEN INVITED AND DECLINED. COS HAD ASKED SCHLICHTER, ON 14 DECEMBER, TO TRY TO GET COS, [] INCLUDED, AND -- ON THE RETURN FLIGHT TO BONN -- FORCEFULLY EXPRESSED TO SCHUELER COS' DISAPPOINTMENT OF THE FACT THAT COS, [] HAD NOT BEEN PRESENT. SCHUELER APOLOGIZED; BUT SOMEWHAT LAMELY SAID HE HAD FEARED THAT IF THERE WERE TWO AMERICANS, "OTHER NATO PARTNERS" WHOSE SENIOR INTELLIGENCE REPRESENTATIVES HAD NOT BEEN INVITED WOULD BE SERIOUSLY OFFENDED.) THE GERMANS WERE HOSPITALITY PERSONIFIED TO BOTH MR. HARTLEY AND COS; [] BUT SEVERAL SYMBOLS ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE U.S. RANKED HIGHER IN THE FRG'S SCALE THAN DID THE UK: COS WAS SEATED (WITH SCHUELER AND THE KINKELS) IN THE FORWARD COMPARTMENT OF THE CHANCELLERY PLANE MR. HARTLEY IN THE REAR; AT BOTH THE CEREMONY AND THE LUNCH, COS WAS SEATED ON SCHLICHTER'S RIGHT, MR. HARTLEY ON HIS LEFT.

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12. ALL IN ALL IT WAS A VERY IMPRESSIVE SHOW. THE BND WAS MUCH CHEERED, KINKEL IS WELL LAUNCHED, AND OMENS FOR THE FUTURE -- INCLUDING FUTURE ENHANCED UTILITY OF THE BND AS AN REACTION LIAISON PARTNER -- ARE ALL GOOD.

13. REQUEST C/E/G GIVE COPIES OF THIS TELEPOUCH TO ANY PERSONS OR OFFICES WHO/MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN IT. THANKS FOR YOUR SEASONS GREETINGS. MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL FROM THE [] STATION, AND BEST WISHES TO ALL FOR A HAPPY, SUCCESSFUL 1979. RVK 22 DEC 98 DRV 09C.3.

END OF MESSAGE

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